

**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY SECTION
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 26, 2010**

PRESENT: Arlie Albrecht, Alice Hanson-Drew, Bruce Kuehl, Ann Marie Starr

EXCUSED: None.

STAFF: Jeff Scanlan, Bureau Director; Colleen Baird, Legal Counsel; Kimberly Wood, Bureau Assistant; other DRL Staff

GUESTS: Cathy Couture, Wisconsin Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (WAMFT)

CALL TO ORDER

Ann Marie Starr, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:43 p.m. A quorum of four (4) members was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Arlie Albrecht moved, seconded by Alice Hanson-Drew to approve the October 26, 2010 agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2011

The Section discussed the election of officers and noted that the officers elected at this meeting will be seated after January 1, 2011. During this discussion it was identified that Ann Marie Starr and Bruce Kuehl's terms are due to expire. A discussion of Section member appointment status ensued.

NOMINATION: Bruce Kuehl nominated Arlie Albrecht for the Office of Chair, Alice Hanson-Drew for the Office of Vice Chair and Bruce Kuehl for the Office of Secretary. Nomination carried by unanimous vote.

Ann Marie Starr called for other nominations three (3) times.

2011 ELECTION RESULTS	
Section Chair	Arlie Albrecht
Vice Chair	Alice Hanson-Drew
Secretary	Bruce Kuehl

APPOINTMENT OF PANEL MEMBERS AND SECTION LIAISONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2011

Ann Marie Starr made the following appointments:

Screening Panel Appointments: Alice Hanson-Drew and Bruce Kuehl

Credentialing Liaison: Arlie Albrecht

Division of Enforcement & Monitoring Liaison: Arlie Albrecht

WAMFT Liaison: Arlie Albrecht

Coalition Liaison: Bruce Kuehl

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 26, 2010

MOTION: Bruce Kuehl moved, seconded by Alice Hanson-Drew to approve the July 26, 2010 minutes as published. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Review of 2011 Meeting Dates

The Section reviewed its 2011 meeting dates.

MOTION: Alice Hanson-Drew moved, seconded by Bruce Kuehl, to approve the proposed 2011 meeting date schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST SECTION DISCUSSION OF PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATION OF FOREIGN MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST PROGRAM GRADUATES

Kris Hendrickson and Justin Tomer, Division of Professional Credentialing, joined the Section for discussion of this topic. Jeff Scanlan explained that the receipt of an application from an applicant who had graduated from a marriage and family therapy program in Mexico highlighted that there is no foreign graduate evaluation approval process in place.

The Section discussed evaluation of foreign trained applicants and discussed the existence of recommendations within the profession, perhaps from Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards ([AMFTRB](#)) or Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education ([COAMFTE](#)), regarding procedures for evaluation of programs or credentials of foreign graduates. The Section discussed the utilization of the National Association for Credential Evaluation Services ([NACES](#)). Jeff Scanlan explained that NACES provides services such as confirming the validity of a degree, evaluation of the degree and perform translations of official documentation.

The Section discussed if it should require a foreign applicant to complete a language proficiency examination titled “Test of English as a Foreign Language” ([TOEFL](#)). Jeff Scanlan explained that other professions require this examination for an individual who speaks English as their secondary language and is seen as important as health professionals need to be fluent to access services for their clients.

The Section discussed what action it can take to address requirements for foreign trained applicants. Jeff Scanlan informed the Section that it should be able to set a policy but advised the Section to add such requirements to its rules in the future. He then informed the Section of the recommendations that have been made by the Department regarding licensure protocols for foreign trained applicants of other boards. The Section discussed the recommendation presented at this meeting and worked to identify other requirements that should be utilized.

MOTION: Bruce Kuehl moved, seconded by Arlie Albrecht, to recommend that foreign applicants be required to submit to an evaluation to be conducted by an organization certified by NACES including document translation to the English language by the evaluator, to certify the authenticity of educational program, require an evaluator to conduct an equivalency comparison of the curriculum with the requirements of Wisconsin, in addition require a written and verbal TOEFL evaluation of an applicant from a country that does not use English as a primary language and an official verification, if licensed, directly from the licensing authority. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON AAMFT AND AMFTRB 2010 ANNUAL MEETINGS ANN MARIE STARR

Ann Marie Starr reported to the Section regarding her attendance at the 2010 AMFTRB and American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy ([AAMFT](#)) Annual Meetings.

Ann Marie Starr spoke to supervisory requirements nation-wide and noted that Wisconsin has one of the lowest supervisory requirements in the nation. She discussed a range of supervisory requirements employed by the various jurisdictions. The Section discussed how this information would apply to the effort of the Joint Board to create more equality in the supervisory requirements across the Section's of the Board.

Ann Marie Starr informed the Section that another prevalent issue they discussed at the conference is continuing competency. She indicated that continued competency is highlighted by COAMFTE's change in standard 11. She reported that less than half of COAMFTE accredited programs are currently under the new standard. Ann Marie Starr indicated that COAMFTE's requirements under standard 11 are no longer in line with state standards. She indicated that during discussion they argued that it is pointless to have a competency based program that does not prepare students for the competencies for licensure.

Ann Marie Starr informed the Section that she obtained a copy of AMFTRB's annual examination report but noted that this document can only be made available to Section members. She indicated that the testing service Professional Examination Service ([PES](#)) provides the state with statistical testing data. Ann Marie Starr indicated that this data would outline the pass rates by program within our jurisdiction. The Section requested that the Department locate this information provided by PES so that the Section can identify what data is available and can determine the utility of this information.

Ann Marie Starr stated that another issue addressed at the AMFTRB Annual meeting was online and remote education and supervision. She informed the Section that several states are working to set limitations around how much education or supervision may be performed using new technologies. The Section reviewed some of the requirements of other jurisdictions in terms of their limitations to online or remote education and/or supervision. The Section noted that its rules are silent as it relates to limitations on online or remote technologies for the purpose of accruing supervision or for obtaining education.

Ann Marie Starr advised that South Carolina is currently writing rules to clarify how therapists can use social networks such as Facebook or LinkedIn. The Section discussed social networking usage and the potential for dual relationship issues to develop or for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) confidentiality violations to occur. She recommended that the Section keep this issue in mind when working to identify its goals for the coming year.

Ann Marie Starr stated that the AAMFT Annual meeting was both interesting and informative. She noted that she attended an interesting presentation on the plenary on the history of marriage. She indicated that some areas of this meeting were not solely MFT focused but still contained information that all therapists should know.

The Section was informed that next year the AMFTRB will again plan its annual meeting to coincide with the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation ([CLEAR](#)) Conference rather than with AAMFT.

SECTION DISCUSSION OF MPSW JOINT BOARD PLANNING ON BOARD GOALS FOR 2010

1. Amendment of Wis. Stat. 457.02 Regarding Repeal of Provisions Which Restrict Board License Holders from Providing Treatment of Substance Abuse and Substance Use Disorders

The Section noted that there was not much more discussion to be had with respect to this issue at today's meeting. The Section generally reviewed and discussed its progress in pursuing regulation of DHS authorized psychotherapists.

2. Create Supervisory Guidelines and Address Disparity of Supervisor Regulations Across Regulations of the 3 Professions of the MPSW Joint Board

The Section discussed issues relating to supervision and worked to determine the utility of imposing additional requirements to its supervisory standards.

The Section discussed concerns raised at the Joint Board about the potential implementation of requirements for completion, including signature, of a supervisory attestation form that would be completed at the onset of a supervisory relationship. The concern voiced at the Joint Board meeting was related to the possibility of slowed application timeframes due to an applicant's inability to obtain a supervisor signature. The Section identified the need for a supervisor and the supervisee to clearly define the supervisory relationship and to outline what that supervision will consist of. The Section felt that the concern would likely be the exception to the rule rather than the normal circumstance for training license applicants.

The Section specifically reviewed revisions to application form # 2571, "Employment Form for Supervised Marriage and Family Therapy Practice" as drafted by Bruce Kuehl and also reviewed a comparison chart created by Bruce Kuehl that compares the supervisory requirements for each of the Sections of the Joint Board. The Section discussed the largest obstacles to the Joint Board in terms of synchronization of the supervisory requirements of each Section. The Section reviewed the supervisory requirements of the other Section's to identify how to make supervisory requirements more equal across the Joint Board. The Section discussed a focus on the part of the Social Work Section regarding its requirements pertinent to DSM diagnosis and contemplated whether the emphasis on this area could be down played in an effort to meet the Board's goal of more similar requirements. The Section also reviewed how to address outcome competency disparities of each of the Joint Board's Sections.

The Section did not complete its review of the application form # 2571, "Employment Form for Supervised Marriage and Family Therapy Practice" due to time constraints. The members of the Section should review the revised application form for discussion at the January 2011 meeting.

3. DHS Mental health Provider Status Letter Holders – Discussion on What Actions Should Be Taken by MPSW Joint Board in Terms of Recognizing Unlicensed DHS-Recognized Mental Health Providers

The Section did not discuss this topic due to time constraints.

**APPROVAL PROCESS FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST PROGRAMS
(THROUGH EQUIVALENCY)**

Bruce Kuehl informed the Section of correspondence he received from Peter Fabian, Edgewood College, asking the Section if it was possible for applicants to begin supervised practice prior to receiving a marriage and family therapy training license. Peter Fabian's correspondence spoke to concerns about the application timeframes and to the ability of applicants to work while in the process of applying for a license.

The Section discussed if there is mechanism for graduates to accumulate hours in a “good faith” period and determined that it is not lawful to obtain experience hours towards permanent license to practice marriage and family therapy if an applicant receives training without first obtaining a training license.

Jeff Scanlan indicated that the Department is now tracking the amount of time between receipt of application materials and issuance of licensure. Kris Hendrickson and Justin Tomer joined the Section for this discussion. Justin Tomer distributed a document outlining the application processing times for recent marriage and family therapy training license applications. Jeff Scanlan spoke to the types of documentation that can delay an applications for licensure and noted that it is the failed receipt of application items that prevents timely issuance of credentials. The Section reviewed its processing timelines and failed to identify any significant issues.

The Section discussed the need for educators to prepare students for the licensure process. Methods of improving application processing timeframes were discussed by the Section. The Section decided that better public communication may be only viable approach to addressing application timeframe issues.

Jeff Scanlan indicated that in the past, he has received correspondence from organizations regarding application processing timeframes and indicated that he does not receive the name of the applicant in question. He informed the Section that if the name of an applicant is provided then the Department can identify issues and can then resolve the problem. He indicated that identifying idiosyncrasies in the application processing procedure helps the Department to improve its systems.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: Arlie Albrecht moved, seconded by Alice Hanson-Drew, to convene to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State statutes 19.85(1)(a)(b)(f) and (g), to review applications, deliberate on proposed stipulations, deliberate on administrative warning; deliberate on hearings or appearances for denial of applications; review monitoring cases; review DOE cases, and consult with legal counsel. Roll Call Vote: Arlie Albrecht-yes; Alice Hanson-Drew-yes; Bruce Kuehl-yes; Ann Marie Starr-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board convened into Closed Session at 3:59 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION: Bruce Kuehl moved, seconded by Alice Hanson-Drew, to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 4:57 p.m.

VOTING ON ITEMS CONSIDERED OR DELIBERATED ON IN CLOSED SESSION IF VOTING IS APPROPRIATE

APPLICATION REVIEWS **MFT FILE REVIEW 10/26/2010**

RECIPROCITY:

Patricia Hoogestraat- *approved*

Julia Schwenkner- *approved*

HOURS:

Joseph Pikalek- *denied*

Kathleen Schiltz- *approved*

SUPERVISOR REVIEW

Angela Bartels-Gaziano- *approved*

Jaelyn Weiss- *additional information requested*

MOTION: Alice Hanson-Drew moved, seconded by Bruce Kuehl, to approve the applications approved, deny the applications denied, and to request further information on applications where needed. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER SECTION BUSINESS

Arlie Albrecht informed the Board of a meeting he has scheduled with Peter Fabian regarding the issue of training reimbursement. He indicated that this meeting would allow them to discuss a consistent and coordinated approach to addressing 3rd party payments. He noted that Minnesota and Illinois trainees are receiving Medicaid reimbursement. The Section considered if Arlie Albrecht should attend this meeting in a more official capacity.

MOTION: Alice Hanson-Drew moved, seconded by Bruce Kuehl, to authorize Arlie Albrecht to represent the Section at this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Bruce Kuehl moved, seconded by Alice Hanson-Drew, to adjourn.
Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.